

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

December 9, 2009

Commissioner of Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SECOND STATUS INQUIRY

Sir:

A communication was mailed on March 14, 2003 informing the undersigned that a third party applicant was seeking to provoke an interference by copying into an unidentified pending application claims which issued from the above identified patent application as U.S. Patent No. 6,246,933. To date no further information has been received with regard to the declaration of such interference. Inquiry is therefore made as to the status of this matter. Specifically, it is requested that the Office notify the undersigned whether or not such copied claims remain pending in a third party application and/or whether there has been a formal declaration of interference.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

/Bryan H. Davidson/

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Req. No. 30,251

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